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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/726,637	12/04/2003	Young-Sam Lim	2421-000028/US	6178
30593	7590	01/27/2006	EXAMINER	
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.			MORGAN, EILEEN P	
P.O. BOX 8910			ART UNIT	
RESTON, VA 20195			PAPER NUMBER	
			3723	
DATE MAILED: 01/27/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SP

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/726,637	LIM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Eileen P. Morgan	3723	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-58 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 18-58 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In the claims, what is a 'pseudo window'? Cl. 1 what constitutes a 'pseudo window area'? Does a portion of the pad make up the 'pseudo window'? Cl. 2, a 'recessed region' of what? Cl. 3 what is the supporting layer supporting? What is this layer connected to? Cl. 4, how does a recessed region 'thereby form a pseudo window'? How can a 'recessed region' be 'adjacent' itself? Cl. 8, how does a layer 'interact' with a platen? Cls. 11-13, 'the recessed region' lacks antecedent basis in regard to location. This location has never been established. Cl. 11, how does the platen window 'preserve' the recessed region? Where is the recessed region? The term flush is with respect to what? Cl. 12, 'protrudes' with respect to what? How is the recess reduced? Where is the recess? Same for cl. 13. Cl. 14, The term 'including' means what? One layer is on top of another? One layer is within the other? How does a polishing layer 'including a supporting layer' 'thereby form a pseudo window'? How is the supporting layer adjacent to itself? How is the platen and supporting layer related? The terms 'flush' are with respect to what? Same for cl. 16. The terms 'protrudes' and

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'recessed' are with respect to what? How are the platen and supporting layer related? Same for cl. 17. The relation between the platen and layer are unclear. The directions and orientation of the 'window' and 'recess' are unclear. A 'window' used in the above claims does not necessarily have to be a solid object. A window can be considered an 'opening' in which protrusions and recesses could be established anywhere since the opening is continuous.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5,7-9,11-17, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Birang et al.-6,045,439.

Birang discloses a polishing table with a platen (16) a pad (18) made of layers (20 and 22 of polyurethane), wherein the pad is thinned or recessed (col. 5, lines 49-51) , wherein the platen has a transparent window (opening) with different amounts of protrusion as broadly interpreted.

Claims 1,2,4-8,14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hasegawa-6,855,034.

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Hasegawa discloses a polishing table with a platen (2) a pad (1) wherein the pad (polybutadiene-Abstract) is thinned or recessed (11) to 1-2mm (col. 9, lines 5-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Birang, alone.

In regard to claim 6, Birang does not disclose the thickness of thinned area. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time invention was made to make the thinned area an appropriate thickness based on need of the laser's penetration.

In regard to claim 10, Birang teaches the use of a quartz insert (38) of the platen. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time invention was made to use the quartz insert, in conjunction with the recessed pad in order to accurately direct the light unto the wafer with minimal interference.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eileen P. Morgan whose telephone number is 571.272.4488. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (Office), Friday (Work at home).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on 571.272.4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EM
January 23, 2006



EILEEN P. MORGAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER